

INTERVIEW SUMMARY
Work Assignment ES002
Lower Darby Creek Area Site



Harold E. Miles

Prepared for:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
Enforcement Support Services
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division
1650 Arch Street
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Work Assignment Number:	ES002
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Contract Number:	68-S3-01-01
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Interviewer:	Michael McCloskey, Tri-State Enterprise

Name: Harold E. Miles (WITNESS)

Affiliation: Former Sanitarian
Pennsylvania Department of Health

Telephone:

Type of Interview: In-Person

Date of Interview: June 27, 2002

On June 27, 2002, the WITNESS was interviewed at his residence by Michael McCloskey of Tri-State Enterprise. The WITNESS was interviewed as part of the potentially responsible party search currently being conducted under Work Assignment NO. ES-002 involving the Lower Darby Creek Area, Delaware County, PA (the "Site"). This interview focused on the Folcroft Landfill (Folcroft) and the Clearview Landfill (Clearview). The WITNESS was provided with a copy of the letter of introduction, advised of the nature of the questions to be asked and advised that the interview was voluntary. The WITNESS advised that he is not represented by an attorney in this matter and did not want an attorney. No other persons were present and this interview was not tape-recorded.

During the course of this interview, the WITNESS responded to questions based on guidelines provided by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for former government employees.

The WITNESS was shown a map of Folcroft and a sketch of Clearview and this map and sketch was used throughout the interview.

The WITNESS was asked to explain his association with the Site.

The WITNESS stated that from 1963 to 1970 he was employed by the State of Pennsylvania as a sanitarian with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The WITNESS stated that he was the solid waste coordinator for the Pennsylvania Department of Health during this time. The WITNESS stated that his duties in this position included inspecting Folcroft and Clearview. The WITNESS stated that he inspected each landfill 4 times each year. He indicated that he inspected each landfill to insure compliance with the following State of Pennsylvania Landfill Operation Requirements:

- All waste was required to be covered with 3 inches of dirt at the end of each day:
- Rodents were required to be controlled and contained:
- Mosquito control was the responsibility of the landfill operator.

The WITNESS stated that he conducted an extensive inspection at each landfill 4 times each year. The WITNESS stated that he filled a detailed report for each inspection and indicated that these reports should be in the state archives.

The WITNESS was asked to describe the operation for each landfill.

Folcroft:

The WITNESS was asked to describe the operation at Folcroft.

The WITNESS stated that when he inspected the landfill, he was accompanied by the Folcroft General Manager, Ed Mullen.

The WITNESS stated that entrance to Folcroft was off of Calcon Hook Road. The WITNESS stated that Folcroft was owned by Bernie McNichol and was operated by both Bernie McNichol and Ed Mullen.

The WITNESS stated that Folcroft was initially opened for disposal of the incinerator ash from the Delaware County Incinerator that was located at the base of Folcroft. The WITNESS stated that shortly after Folcroft was opened, the landfill also began accepting waste from anyone who paid to use it. The WITNESS stated that in 1963, he was not aware of any permitting requirements for landfills and did not believe that Folcroft had any permits for accepting and disposing of waste.

The WITNESS stated that Bernie McNichol constructed a building he referred to as a Quonset hut at the entrance to Folcroft. He indicated that Bernie McNichol also operated a trash hauling business out of this location known as Tri-County Hauling. The WITNESS stated that he did not inspect the trash company operation.

The WITNESS indicated that there was also a shack at the entrance to Folcroft and that all trucks entering Folcroft were required to stop at this shack and sign a ticket. The WITNESS stated that he could not recall what information this ticket contained.

The WITNESS stated that a well was located about 100 feet from the Quonset hut and was used as drinking water for the Tri-County Hauling and Folcroft Landfill employees. The WITNESS stated that in 1964 he tested the water and found that the well had bacterial contamination.

When asked if he had ever taken water samples or soil samples from other locations at Folcroft, the WITNESS stated no. The WITNESS stated that the PA Department of Health had a geologist that frequently visited Folcroft and may have taken soil samples. The WITNESS provided the following name.

- Grover Emrick: The WITNESS stated that Emrick is currently employed by Science America in the King of Prussia, PA area.

When asked to describe how Folcroft was filled, the WITNESS stated that the fill area was started close to the Quonset hut and grew in a southwest direction. He indicated that the fill

area was dug about 30-feet deep, filled with waste and then covered with the dirt taken from the fill area. The WITNESS stated that this caused the fill areas to look like tiers as the landfill area grew.

The WITNESS stated that from late 1964 to approximately 1965, a large pit had been dug at Folcroft and was located about 500-feet from the well (Quonset hut). The WITNESS described this pit as 100-feet by 50-feet and 50-feet deep. The WITNESS stated that this pit was used to dispose of full 55-gallon drums containing paint and chemical waste. The WITNESS stated that he observed 55-gallon drums dumped into the pit and observed a bulldozer drive over the drums to crush the drums. The WITNESS stated that he observed this activity on numerous occasions. He indicated that the sides of the pit were dug in a sloping manner to allow the bulldozer to drive into the pit and crush the drums.

When asked if he recalled the names of the companies that had disposed of drums at Folcroft the WITNESS stated no. The WITNESS stated that he did not pay attention to Folcroft users. He indicated that he might have made some notes in his reports regarding names of users at the landfill when he was present.

When asked if he had observed any tanker trucks disposing of liquid waste at Folcroft, the WITNESS stated yes. He indicated that he had observed tanker trucks disposing of liquid waste in fill areas throughout Folcroft.

The WITNESS stated that this pit became full in about 1965. He indicated that he does not recall another pit being dug. He indicated that after 1965 he observed drums being disposed of in the common fill areas and crushed.

The WITNESS stated that he was unable to recall the names of any of the transporters or generators that disposed of waste at Folcroft. He indicated that he may have noted some of his observations on his inspection reports and suggested that copies of these reports be obtained.

When asked if Folcroft was in compliance with the State of Pennsylvania operation requirements, the WITNESS stated that he would find numerous discrepancies each time he inspected. He indicated that most of the problems involved not covering the fill areas at night.

Clearview:

The WITNESS stated that he inspected Clearview during the same years he was inspecting Folcroft. He indicated that Clearview was commonly known as Heller's Dump. The WITNESS stated that Clearview was owned and operated by Richard Heller. He indicated that Mr. Heller also owned and operated a trash hauling company known as City Wide Services and that this trash company was located on the landfill property.

The WITNESS stated that trucks entered Clearview from 84th Street. The WITNESS stated that there was a shack at the entrance to Clearview and that trucks entering the landfill were required to stop at this shack and fill out a ticket. The WITNESS did not know what information this ticket contained.

The WITNESS stated that the actual landfill was located on top of a hill. He indicated that Clearview also had a pit dug in the center of the landfill area. He indicated that this pit was

Executed on _____ Signed _____
(Date) (Name)